



## Thomas Patrick Connor Jr.

July 31, 1939 - July 11, 2021

On July 11th, 2021, Thomas Patrick Connor Jr. gained his angel wings and was reunited with the love of his life Patricia in heaven. He is survived by his adoring daughter Rebecca Capobianco, son in law Joseph Capobianco, and beloved grandchildren Ava and Max. In addition to being a loving husband, father and grandfather, Tom was a dear brother to his eight siblings, Mary Ellen (Joe) Norpel, Nancy Connor, Mimi Connor, John (Susan) Connor, Jim (Mary) Connor, Cecilia (Chris) West, Fran (Karen) Connor, Loretta (Charlie) Simpson, caring uncle to his 24 nieces and nephews and a wonderful cousin to his large extended family.

Born July 31st, 1939 to Anastasia (McCormick) and Thomas Patrick Connor, Tom was raised in Philadelphia and Drexel Hill and was the oldest son in a family of 9 children. He graduated from La Salle College High School and went on to earn his Bachelor's Degree and other advanced degrees. Tom taught high school religion and math for many years and later began his career in nursing home administration. He spent much of that career as the administrator of the Belvedere Nursing home in Chester PA and later as the administrator of the Transitional Care Unit at Delaware County Memorial Hospital.

Tom's calm, loving demeanor and his compassion for people shown through in everything he did and made him an especially wonderful husband, father,

grandfather, brother, son, uncle, cousin and friend. He loved his family deeply and was always there for them, which was particularly evident during his wife Patricia's long battle with Alzheimer's disease. One of his most cherished roles was being a grandfather and he was honored that his grandchildren gave him the name "Poppy Hat" because he always wearing his Phillies or Eagles hat.

Tom had a special way of making everyone feel comfortable. He was always quick to crack a joke and make you laugh, but he also listened intently to what you had to say and always had something kind to say in return. At work he made a point to know not just everyone's names, but the names and stories of their family members. No matter how busy he was, he would always find time in his workday to walk around, ask everyone how they were doing, ask about their family members and wish them all well.

Tom was a clown, both figuratively and literally. He loved making others laugh, and worked hard to find new ways to do so, whether it be sharing his favorite comic from the paper, telling jokes and funny stories, dressing up as a clown, or cutting out headlines and stories and sharing them in his newsletter. In his spare time he graduated from clown college and for years participated in the Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade. He also loved to clown at the Doo Dah Parade in Ocean City and at the Annual Richard West Wheelchair Race on Long Beach Island.

Tom was an avid reader of books and the Inquirer, and enjoyed crossword puzzles, word jumbles and Jeopardy. He loved sports, having played basketball, softball and tennis and was a die hard Phillies fan. He loved to travel with his wife and daughter, take walks on the sea wall in Brigantine, attend all types of sporting events and spend quality time with family and friends. Tom had many close groups of friends, including friendships he made in his teens and twenties. Those friendships have lasted over 60 years, and

they get together a few times a year.

Tom was truly one of the great ones and will be deeply missed by so many.

Relatives and friends are invited to gather for a celebration of life for Tom and Pat Connor on August 12th at St. Dorothy's Catholic Church, 4910 Township Line Rd, Drexel Hill, PA 19026. Visitation will begin at 9 am, followed by a funeral mass at 1030 am.

Our family had hope to invite everyone to a luncheon following the funeral. Unfortunately due to the newest information coming in regarding the delta variant, we have made the difficult decision to restrict the luncheon to immediate family only. We are deeply saddened to make this decision but hope you understand that we need to continue to protect our vulnerable family members and unvaccinated children. Thank you.

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Family and Friends

AUG 12. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Dorothy's Catholic Church  
4910 Township Line Road  
Drexel Hill, PA 19026

## Memorial Mass

AUG 12. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Dorothy's Catholic Church  
4910 Township Line Road  
Drexel Hill, PA 19026

# Tribute Wall



“ *Thomas Patrick Connor Jr.*

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September 09, 2022 at 01:27 AM



“ *What wonderful memories with Tom & Pat — from the Ardmere Mystery Club, Movie Club, Poconos, Brigantine, Chincoteague and even several times in Florida, not to mention the weddings which were so truly special. Tom found so many ways to put a smile on everyone face whether from clowning or even his popular newsletter and he was well ahead of the health care industry in recognizing that was what was missing in the field from hospitals to old folks homes. it was Tom who introduced us to his favorite Jeff Dunham’s character Walter, while Peanut was Pat’s favorite. We were blessed to have such wonderful neighbors and friends.*

*The Hutchings*

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**Patricia** - August 09, 2021 at 03:52 PM



“ *Arline and I have many happy memoreis of Tom before he married Pat Groups we were involved in and many funny times just going out with them We have pictures of Tom as a clown with our grandson Bill when he was about seven and in his twenties We have missed these times Tom was one of a kind He will be missed I'm sure him and Pat are happy together*

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**Wayne McKeever** - August 03, 2021 at 04:50 PM

ST

“ My very favorite memory of you and one of my favorite memories in life, generally, was having you come over the 23rd Street dune in clown costume and sit next to me on the sand near the bottom of my grandparent's boardwalk. After panicking in the brief moment before recognizing that it was you, I distinctly recall how good it felt that you would want to sit with me for so long with your stories and your humor and then the privilege of witnessing the deep love of your cousinship with Nonnie during that colorful visit - a repeated and familiar Connor scene that has blessed and entertained my entire life. I am so grateful for your love. We love you. Stephanie

Stephanie - July 18, 2021 at 11:50 AM

JC

“ Tom used to take me to Phillies games when I was a young teenager. What 22 year old boy wants his 14 year old little brother hanging out with him? Tom. I don't know if I should thank him for making me a lifelong Phillies Phan. 😊❤️😂

jim connor - July 18, 2021 at 10:22 AM

ME

That's good!

Meg - July 20, 2021 at 04:11 PM

ME

Tommy had positive energy from the top of his head to the bottom of his feet. My brothers and sisters were lucky enough to know him as kids. I remember going to the house in Drexel Hill. I also remember how he respected his father. All those brothers and sisters were graced with beautiful gifts. I can stand behind this firmly because my Mom was good for re-explaining who everyone was and it was Always positive and respectful. Tommy always followed what would be a benefit to help people.

I say Thank you, God that he did so much that he did for Gods love.

Meg - July 20, 2021 at 04:21 PM

NC

*One time I was visiting , and Pat was slow to get ready to go out. Tom, four-year-old Rebecca and I were at the bottom of the stairs. Pat called down, "Tom, will you put on Rebecca's coat?" Tom answered, Yes, but I do not know if it will fit me." Rebecca said to me, "My father is so silly."*  
Nancy Connor

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**Nancy Connor** - July 21, 2021 at 04:59 PM

LC

*He made me laugh! Even in his last weeks he still joked with the nurses.*

*I am humbled by the way he took care of Pat. When I suggested a care home he said simply, "I took a vow".*

*We teased one another constantly about him being 10 years older than I.*

*I miss him already.*

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**Little sis Celia** - July 22, 2021 at 08:36 AM

FC

*I guess that made me about eleven when he took me, Jim and John to the Phillies at Connie Mack Stadium Twi-night double header, of course. We all miss him already. Where can I get a copy of that picture?*

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**Fran Connor** - July 22, 2021 at 09:59 AM

GR

*I was about nine years old when I was down the shore with my dad when Tom came some of his buddies. They would have been about 21. I was thrilled when they invited me to go to the boardwalk movie to see The Music Man. Then we went to the Waffle House where I had a huge waffle ice cream sandwich. I felt special.*

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**Goddaughter / little sister Ret** - July 29, 2021 at 07:19 PM

CM

*I had the great fortune to know Tom when he worked at Delaware County Memorial Hospital. He was a close friend of my in-laws, Ron and Mary Gionta, and when he joined out staff I sought him out . What an experience! Tom was Very dedicated and passionate, and funny as &/#@!! He brought light and laughter wherever he was. (and, I also was one of the extremely fortunate recipients of his hilariously "Will Rogers- esk" newsletters. ) A true light in the world, Tommy Connor, rest in peace, my friend.*

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**Carol McCullough** - August 02, 2021 at 11:45 AM